

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Department of State

193 OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

PAGE #1 OF #8 STATE #38937 TOSEC #18022
ORIGIN NEA-11

3368

STATE #38937 TOSEC #18022

INFO OCT-81 EUR-12 PA-81 H-81 SSM-83 ISO-88 AF-18
ARA-11 EA-18 IO-14 SIG-83 MHO-81 CCO-88 SSO-88
INR-18 INRE-88 USSS-88 SY-85 SYE-88 MCT-82 L-83
SP-82 OPR-82 PER-81 OGS-86 SES-81 SAA-81 OC-86
ACDA-12 PH-85 /134 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:REUNDELAND:RGH
APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN
PA/PRS - MR. CARTER
H - MR. FLATEN S/S-D:MR. VALERGA
SSM - MR. MC ANDREW
NEA/IAI - MR. KORN
NEA/ARN - MR. CLUVERIUS
NEA/EGY - MR. MARTHINSEN
NEA/ARP - MR. TWINAM
NEA/IRN - MR. PRECHT

-----#57394 151289Z /23

O 150544Z FEB 79 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY Dacca IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DOHA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MANAMA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SANA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION SINAI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TUNIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

USDEP SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS

SECDEF WASHDC 0000

JCS WASHDC 0000

CIA WASHDC 0000

USICA WASHDC

NSC WASHDC 0000

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE #38937 TOSEC #18022

INFORM CONSULS ZFF4 FOR SECRETARY PARTY ONLY

E.O. 12065 W/A

TAGS: SDPN

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT 5:00 P.M. PRESS BRIEFING
SECRETARY'S PARTY, PASS POWELL SCHECTER AND TRATTNER
FROM BRIEFING GIVEN BY SPOKESMAN HODDING CARTER III AT
A 5:00 P.M. BRIEFING TODAY.

MR. CARTER: THE SITUATION IN IRAN IS NOT MUCH ADVANCED

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

INSOFAR AS INFORMATION THAT I CAN GIVE YOU. I HAVE TO SAY
THAT ON THE QUESTION OF AMERICANS MISSING FROM THE
COMPOUND, AS I HAD PLEDGED TO YOU WAS LIKELY, THERE IS
AT LEAST SOME APPARENT CHANGE IN THE INFORMATION AVAIL-
ABLE; THAT IS, THE LAST REPORT WE HAVE IS THAT SOME 18
AMERICANS MAY IN FACT NOT HAVE RETURNED TO THE COMPOUND.
HOWEVER, IT AT LEAST SEEMS ON THE BASIS OF THE LATEST
REPORTS THAT THEIR WHEREABOUTS IS KNOWN AND THAT THEY
ARE REPORTEDLY GOING TO BE RETURNED OR ARE RETURNING,
AND ARE, IN ANY CASE, PHYSICALLY OKAY.

I CAN ONLY STRESS AGAIN, ON THAT QUESTION, THE RATHER
EXTREME DIFFICULTY OF COMMUNICATIONS. WE STILL DO NOT
HAVE ADEQUATE COMMUNICATIONS. IT IS NOW THE MIDDLE OF
THE NIGHT IN TEHRAN. IF WE HAD ADEQUATE COMMUNICATIONS,
WE WOULD NOT HAVE VERY GOOD INFORMATION JUST SIMPLY
BECAUSE OF THE HOUR OF THE NIGHT.

WE HAVE HAD SOME INTERMITTENT OUTGOING TELEPHONE
CAPACITY FROM THE EMBASSY WHICH COMES UP AND GOES DOWN.
NO IN-GOING.

THE ONLY RELIABLE FORM OF COMMUNICATION ON A REGULAR
BASIS HAS BEEN THROUGH THE THIRD PARTY CHANNEL; THAT IS,
THE DIPLOMATS FROM OTHER EMBASSIES GOING IN AND TALKING
TO THE AMBASSADOR AND GOING OUT.

THE PLACE IS ACTUALLY TIED DOWN FOR THE NIGHT AT THIS
POINT. VERY FEW PEOPLE ARE UP.

Q. WHAT IS THE SITUATION IN REGARD TO WHO ACTUALLY IS
OCCUPYING ALL THOSE BUILDINGS. YOU LEFT THAT UNDERTAIN
BEFORE.

A. TO BEGIN WITH, I AM WILLING TO TAKE ALL THE BLAME
FOR ANYBODY WHO THOUGHT I SAID THAT SOME OF THE
GUERRILLAS MIGHT STILL BE INSIDE THERE. THAT SIMPLY
ISN'T THE CASE. THERE ARE ABOUT 40 OF THE PROVISIONAL
GOVERNMENT'S REPRESENTATIVES INSIDE THE COMPOUND AND ABOUT
40 OUTSIDE; THAT IS TO SAY, ARMED PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT
FORCES.

Q. DO YOU DESCRIBE THESE AS GUARDS?

A. YES, GUARDING THE COMPOUND.

Q. HOW CLOSE DID THEY GET TO SENSITIVE MATERIAL?

A. THERE HAS BEEN NO REPORT OF ANY ENDANGERING OF OR
COMPROMISE OF SENSITIVE MATERIAL.

Q. AND WE ARE GLAD THEY ARE THERE, OF COURSE.

A. ABSOLUTELY. THEY ARE ANOTHER INDICATION OF THE
COOPERATION OF THAT PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT.

Q. WHEN YOU SAY SOME INTERMITTENT TELEPHONE
CAPACITY, DO YOU MEAN THERE HAVE BEEN SOME TELEPHONE
CALLS?

A. THEY CAN GET UP A LINE. IT DOESN'T STAY UP VERY
LONG, AND IT GOES DOWN.

Q. HAS THERE BEEN A PARTIAL CONVERSATION, AT LEAST, OR
IS IT JUST THEY CAN CRANK UP THE MACHINE.

A. NO, THERE HAVE BEEN SOME CONVERSATIONS. BUT ACTUAL-
LY THE BEST FORM OF COMMUNICATION, I HAVE TO REPEAT, IS
AS I GAVE IT TO YOU, THAT IS, THROUGH THE THIRD PARTY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Department of State

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

PAGE 02 OF 08 STATE #38937 TOSEC #10022

STATE #38937 TOSEC #10022

SOURCES.

Q. YOU HAVE 18 AMERICANS. BECAUSE OF THE COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEM --

A. AND ALSO THE HOUR.

Q. I MEAN, IS IT THAT THEY DIDN'T COME BACK WITH THE OTHER FOLKS, AND WE DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT IT RIGHT AWAY, OR HAS THERE BEEN SOME DELAY IN THEIR BEING RELEASED, BUT NOW YOU ARE CONFIDENT THEY WILL BE RELEASED.

A. I AM NOT CONFIDENT OF ANYTHING EXCEPT THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE REPORTS WE HAVE, IF YOU WANT TO KNOW THE TRUTH. I MEAN, THAT IS, I AM CONFIDENT THAT IS THE LAST REPORT I HAVE.

Q. I MEAN, WERE THEY HANDLED DIFFERENTLY FROM THE OTHER HOSTAGES, PUT IN A SEPARATE PLACE?

A. I HAVE NO REPORTS THAT THEY HAVE BEEN TREATED DIFFERENTLY. THEY ARE OBVIOUSLY HANDLED DIFFERENTLY IN THAT THEY APPARENTLY ARE NOT BACK, WHICH MEANS THAT UNLIKE SOME OF THE OTHERS WHO HAVE COME BACK, THEY AREN'T.

Q. DO THEY HAVE SOMETHING IN COMMON?

A. NO.

Q. DO THEY ALL WORK IN THE SAME OFFICE?

A. NO, THEY DON'T.

Q. NO SELECTION OUT, IT JUST HAPPENED.

A. NO. AS A MATTER OF FACT, THEY ARE IN THREE DIFFERENT PLACES, WE THINK;

Q. JUST TO BE CLEAR, THESE 18 ARE NOT AMONG THE 70 AT THE U.S. EMBASSY, OR ARE THEY INCLUDED IN THE 70? AT THE U.S. EMBASSY, OR ARE THEY INCLUDED IN THE 70?

A- THEY ARE AMONG THOSE PEOPLE WHO WERE IN THAT ORIGINAL GROUP.

Q. SO THAT FROM THE VERY BEGINNING -- HOW MANY PEOPLE WERE TAKEN OUT OF THE EMBASSY COMPOUND?

A. I AM NOT CLEAR ON THAT AT ALL.

Q. HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE NOW IN THE EMBASSY COMPOUND -- 70 MINUS THE 18?

A. ROUGHLY THAT WOULD BE CORRECT.

Q. WERE THESE 18 TAKEN TO ONE LOCATION?

A. I JUST SAID THAT THEY ARE AT THREE DIFFERENT LOCATIONS, AS WE UNDERSTAND IT.

Q. HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT THEY ARE BEING RETURNED NOW OR THAT THEY ARE COMING BACK?

A. THAT IS SIMPLY THE REPORT WHICH WE GET ON THE BASIS OF CONVERSATIONS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THAT GOVERNMENT WHO HAVE IDENTIFIED WHERE THEY ARE AND WHAT IS INTENDED FOR THEM.

Q. DO YOU KNOW WHO THEY ARE?

A. I AM SURE THAT THE AMBASSADOR KNOWS WHO THEY ARE. I DON'T KNOW.

Q. WELL, ARE THEY HIGH-RANKING OFFICIALS OR ANY --

A. NO, I DON'T THINK THERE IS ANYTHING THAT MARKS THEM PARTICULARLY.

Q. IF THERE IS ANY BRIGHT SIDE TO ALL OF THIS THAT HAS HAPPENED, IT SEEMS TO BE THAT YOU HAVE HAD POSITIVE CONTACTS NOW WITH THIS NEW GOVERNMENT. WOULD YOU LIKE TO PUT THAT INTO AN OVERALL PICTURE IN TERMS OF SINCE ALL OF THIS BEGAN, THE NATURE OF THE CONTACTS THAT YOU HAVE HAD?

A. I WOULD LIKE TO REPEAT WHAT I HAVE SAID BEFORE WHICH IS THAT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT HAVE

BEEN VERY REASSURING TO US IN THAT THEY HAVE TAKEN STEPS TO TRY TO INSURE THE SAFETY OF OUR PEOPLE. EVERY REPORT WE HAVE RECEIVED SO FAR, IN WHAT OBVIOUSLY HAS BEEN A WALTER OF CONFUSING INFORMATION, ESTABLISHES THAT THAT GOVERNMENT'S OFFICIALS HAVE ATTEMPTED TO SECURE THE SAFETY OF OUR PEOPLE.

Q. COULD YOU EXTEND THAT AT ALL? I MEAN, IS IT POSSIBLE TO EXTRAPOLATE FROM THAT THAT NOW THERE MAY BE CONTINUING CONTACTS WITH THE KHOMEINI GOVERNMENT, THAT THIS IN A WAY WAS THE OPENING WEDGE?

A. WE CERTAINLY INTEND TO CONTINUE CONTACTS. I THINK I WANT TO POINT OUT TO YOU THAT AS THE PRESIDENT INDICATED ON MONDAY AND AS WE HAVE BEEN INDICATING ON FULL BACKGROUND, WE HAVE BEEN MOVING ALONG IN ANY CASE TO DEVELOP MORE NORMAL RELATIONS WITH THIS NEW GOVERNMENT.

THE EVENTS OF THE LAST 14 HOURS, OR WHATEVER, HAVE OBVIOUSLY DISRUPTED THE NORMAL KIND OF CONTACTS THAT WE MIGHT HAVE ESTABLISHED THROUGH OUR EMBASSY WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. BUT THE VARIOUS FORMS OF COMMUNICATION WE HAVE HAD WITH THEM THROUGH THEIR EMBASSY HERE, THROUGH THIRD PARTY DIPLOMATS, REPORTING ON CONVERSATIONS WITH THEIR PEOPLE AS TO THEIR INTENTIONS WITH US, THROUGH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FORCES WHO DID COME IN TO SECURE THE EMBASSY FROM THE LEFTIST TAKEOVER, ALL HAVE INDICATED THAT THEY INTEND TO DO ALL IN THEIR POWER TO PROTECT THE SECURITY OF OUR PEOPLE, AND, AS I REPEAT, WE CLEARLY WELCOME THOSE INDICATIONS.

Q. I REMEMBER YESTERDAY WHEN YOU WERE ECHOING PRESIDENT CARTER'S CAREFULLY PREPARED STATEMENT OF COOPERATION WITH THE KHOMEINI PEOPLE, AND AS YOU SAID, "WE ARE MOVING IN THE DIRECTION." YOU AGREED THAT ONE OF THE TESTS OF A GOVERNMENT IS WHETHER IT CAN MAINTAIN ORDER.

NOW YOU SPOKE, OF COURSE, BEFORE SOME 100 AMERICAN DIPLOMATS WERE HELD HOSTAGE. DOES THIS EVENT, PUTTING ASIDE THE AFTER FACT THAT THEY ARE GOING TO LOOK OUT FOR YOU FROM NOW ON, DOES THIS SHAKE YOUR CONFIDENCE IN THE ABILITY OF THE KHOMEINI PEOPLE TO KEEP ORDER IN IRAN, AND THEREBY ENTITLE THEM TO BEING TREATED IN THE NORMAL DIPLOMATIC WAY? CAN THEY CONTROL THEIR COUNTRY?

A. THE EVENTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES. THE EVENTS, HOWEVER, DO NOT SPEAK TO ANY FUTURE QUESTION SUCH AS YOU

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Department of State

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

PAGE 03 OF 08 STATE 038937 TOSEC 010022

STATE 038937 TOSEC 010022

ARE RAISING ANY MORE THAN SIMILAR ACTS IN OTHER

COUNTRIES CAN BE USED AS PREDICATIVE OF WHAT A GOVERNMENT IS OR ISN'T GOING TO BE ABLE TO DO.

OUR INTENTION REMAINS TO COOPERATE WITH THIS GOVERNMENT AND TO DEVELOP OUR CONTACTS WITH IT.

Q. TO FOLLOW EXACTLY ON THAT, WHAT IS YOUR UNDERSTANDING THEN OF WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE REST OF THE COUNTRY SO FAR AS THE ABILITY OF THIS GOVERNMENT TO MAINTAIN CONTROL?

A. IT IS VERY HARD FOR ME TO SAY. THERE ARE, OBVIOUSLY, THE SCATTERED REPORTS THAT WE HAVE ALL SEEN FROM THE WIRES. WE HAVE HAD SOME REPORTING OF EVENTS HERE AND THERE WHICH SEEM TO BE OF ONE KIND OF CONFLICT OR ANOTHER.

IT IS, AGAIN, EXTREMELY FRAGMENTARY, NOT VERY COHERENT, AND I WOULD SAY ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO CHARACTERIZE IN ANY ACCURATE WAY.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON THE STATUS OF AMERICANS IN OTHER CITIES BESIDES TEHRAN, LIKE SHIRAZ OR TABRIZ?

A. THE ONLY THING I HAVE IS THE NEGATIVE FORM OF INFORMATION, WHICH IS I HAVE NO INFORMATION ON INJURIES OR DEATHS OF AMERICANS.

Q. CAN YOU FURTHER EXPLAIN YOUR CHARACTERIZATION OF THE PEOPLE WHO ATTACKED THE EMBASSY AS LEFT-MARXISTS? DO YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION?

A. NO MORE. I DON'T HAVE IT NOW. AGAIN, I TRUST THAT WHEN WE GET COMMUNICATIONS UP AGAIN, AND WE ARE ABLE TO GET MUCH FULLER REPORTING CAPACITY OUT OF THE EMBASSY THAT WE WILL HAVE A BETTER KIND OF DESCRIPTION OF WHAT ACTUALLY TRANSPIRED AND WHO WAS THERE.

Q. COULD YOU EXPLAIN AGAIN WHAT YOU BASE THAT ON, WHAT THAT CHARACTERIZATION WAS BASED ON?

A. YES. IT WAS BASED ON THE CONVERSATIONS THAT OUR OFFICERS, OFFICIALS, WHO WERE INVOLVED THERE WHEN THE GROUP TOOK OVER SAID TO OTHERS WHO HAVE REPORTED TO US. AS I SAID, THERE WAS SOME REPORTING FROM PEOPLE WHO WERENT ACTUALLY INSIDE, AMERICAN OFFICIALS, WHO WERE WITNESS TO IT AND WERE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE WITH US. IT AND WERE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE WITH US.

Q. MR. ROUHANI, IN WHAT IS KNOWN AS THE EMBASSY NOW,

TOLD US TODAY THAT HIS GOVERNMENT KNEW THAT THERE WAS GOING TO BE AN ATTACK ON THE AMERICAN EMBASSY. DID HIS GOVERNMENT IN ANY WAY WARN THIS GOVERNMENT THAT THE

EMBASSY MIGHT BE ATTACKED?

A. I AM NOT AWARE OF HIS STATEMENTS. I SIMPLY DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT. I DO NOT KNOW OF A WARNING, BUT THAT DOES NOT MEAN THAT ONE WASN'T GIVEN. I DON'T KNOW ON WHAT BASIS MR. ROUHANI IS SPEAKING. I JUST DON'T KNOW.

Q. COULD YOU MENTION THE THIRD PARTY COUNTRIES' NAMES?

A. NO, I'M SORRY.

Q. AND DOES IT MEAN THAT THAT THE THIRD COUNTRIES' EMBASSIES IN IRAN CAN HAVE NORMAL CONTACTS WITH THEIR OWN COUNTRIES?

A. WE HAVE HAD POWER PROBLEMS, JUST SIMPLE POWER PROBLEMS, AMONG OTHERS, ONE; AND TWO, I DON'T WANT TO TIE EVERYTHING TOGETHER TOO NEATLY HERE, BUT WE HAD TO TAKE PRECAUTIONARY STEPS, BOTH AS THE ATTACK WAS UNDERWAY AND PRELIMINARY TO IT DURING THE EVENTS OF THE LAST FEW DAYS, TO DEAL WITH CERTAIN KINDS OF CONFIDENTIAL AND OTHERWISE SENSITIVE MATERIAL WHICH AFFECTS OUR ABILITY TO COMMUNICATE, ALSO.

A. COULD YOU CONFIRM THAT THE AMBASSADOR HIMSELF DESTROYED SOME COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT?

A. NO, I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE AMBASSADOR SAID ON THAT, BUT I CAN'T CONFIRM IT.

Q. ON EVACUATION, HAVE YOU DECIDED TO GO TO PHASE III OF THE EVACUATION PLAN?

A. LOOK, IN FAR-OFF, WHEREVER HE MAY BE AT THIS POINT, SECRETARY OF DEFENSE BROWN HAS SAID THIS MORE ADEQUATELY THAN I, AND THAT IS, WE ARE TRYING TO RESUME THE PROCESS OF GETTING THOSE AMERICANS OUT WHOM WE FEEL SHOULD BE GOTTEN OUT, AND WHO, AS AMERICAN CITIZENS, DESIRE TO GET OUT. THERE ARE TWO DIFFERENT CLASSES OF PEOPLE. AND WE ARE TAKING STEPS TO INSURE THAT AT THE MOMENT AT WHICH IT IS POSSIBLE FOR US TO GO BACK IN TO THAT COUNTRY BY AIR, WE WILL DO SO PROMPTLY.

THE QUESTION OF REPORTED NUMBER 1,700 OR SO SORT OF WAITI-

NG ANXIOUSLY TO GET OUT IS CORRECT ENOUGH, AND THEY HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR THE MOST PART NOW FOR FIVE OR SIX DAYS. I DO NOT DOUBT FOR ONE MINUTE THAT THE EVENTS OF THE LAST DAY OR SO WILL HAVE ITS EFFECT ON OTHER AMERICAN PRIVATE CITIZENS WHO WILL ALSO BE WAITING TO GET OUT AS SOON AS THAT AIRPORT OPENS, AND WE ARE GOING TO DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO BE PREPARED TO DEAL WITH THEIR DESIRE TO LEAVE.

INsofar AS TRYING TO DISCUSS THE VARIOUS ASPECTS OF OUR PLANNING OR THE APPROACH THAT WE ARE GOING TO USE OR THE EXACT TIME FOR IT, I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO ADD TO WHAT I SAID TODAY AT NOON, EXCEPT TO CONTINUE TO SAY THAT IT APPEARS CLEAR THAT BECAUSE OF RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS OVER THE NEXT TWO DAYS, THERE WILL NOT BE OPERATING FACILITIES AVAILABLE FOR AIR TRANSPORT UNTIL SATURDAY.

Q. WHAT IS YOUR TARGET NUMBER? DO YOU WANT TO BRING DOWN THE NUMBER OF AMERICANS THERE TO 2,000 OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT, AS ONE REPORT SAYS?

A. I DON'T HAVE A TARGET NUMBER. I THINK THAT FOR ME TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITIES IS GETTING TO A NUMBERS GAME, WHICH I WOULD BE A LOT HAPPIER ABOUT WHEN I BEGAN TO HAVE BETTER COMMUNICATION MYSELF.

Q. WELL, THE LAST TIME AROUND WHEN YOU ANNOUNCED AN EVACUATION, IT WAS TO REDUCE THE NUMBER FROM 10,000 TO 5,000.

A. WELL, WE'RE NOT EVEN THERE YET.

Q. RIGHT. NOW YOU HAVE 7,000. CAN YOU GIVE US A BALL PARK IDEA OF WHAT YOUR HOPE IS?

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Department of State

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

PAGE #4 OF #8 STATE #38937 TOSEC #18822

STATE #38937 TOSEC #18822

A. I CAN'T YET, AS SOON AS I CAN, I WILL. AND I'M SORT OF SPEAKING FOR THE "I" WHICH BECOMES "WE" WHICH BECOMES THE GOVERNMENT. I DON'T THINK THERE IS A FIGURE WHICH IS ACCURATE.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY ASSESSMENT OF THE DEGREE OF ANTI-AMERICANISM IN IRAN NOW?

A. I CAN'T GUAGE IT. I CAN'T PUT A PERCENTAGE ON IT. I CAN CONFIRM THAT IT EXISTS, BUT I DON'T KNOW. I WANT TO ADD AGAIN, HOWEVER, THAT THE REACTION OF THE GOVERN-

MENT ITSELF HAS BEEN POSITIVE DURING THIS PERIOD.

Q. YOU INDICATED THAT THESE PEOPLE WERE TAKEN TO THREE

DIFFERENT PLACES. CAN YOU SAY BY WHOM, WHAT THE PLACES WERE, HOW MANY DIFFERENT PLACES WERE AMERICANS TAKEN TO DURING THE COURSE OF THIS INCIDENT?

A. NO. I'LL TELL YOU WHY, BECAUSE I WOULD DO IT, AND WHILE I THINK THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE EAGER TO SAY IT TO YOU, I WILL TELL YOU JUST AS EAGERLY THAT THERE ARE LIABLE TO BE AS WRONG AS HELL; AND I'M NOT PREPARED TO START ITEMIZING THINGS THAT I THINK WE HAVE VERY SKETCH INFORMATION ON. I'VE GIVEN YOU ABOUT THE BEST THAT I THINK IS IN FACT SOMETHING I WOULD WANT TO STAND BEHIND.

Q. DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE TWO EMPLOYEES OF THE H. ROSS PEROT CORPORATION WHO HAD BEEN KIDNAPPED -- THAT ARE BEING HELD FOR ABOUT DOLS 12 MILLION RANSOM?

A. MS. SCHUKER: THE TWO PEOPLE FROM ADS ARE OUT OF JAIL. THEY ARE PRESENTLY, ALONG WITH ALL THE OTHERS WHO WERE IN JAIL -- I BELIEVE THE NUMBER WAS TEN -- THEY ARE IN A HOTEL IN TEHRAN, AND THE SITUATION BEING CONFUSING AS IT IS, WE REALLY HAVE NO FURTHER INDICATIONS AS TO WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN NEXT.

Q. IN YOUR FRAGMENTARY REPORTS OF OTHER CONFLICTS, HAS THIS MARXIST GUERRILLA ORGANIZATION THAT WAS INVOLVED IN THE EMBASSY SEIZURE SURFACED ANY OTHER PLACE?

A. ON BACKGROUND, IT'S NOT AT ALL CLEAR THAT THE SAME KIND OF BREAKDOWN IN THE FORCES THAT ARE FIGHTING OR THAT SEEM TO BE FIGHTING IN TEHRAN REPRESENT THE ONLY ONES WHO MAY BE ENGAGED IN CONFLICTS ELSEWHERE. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THERE COULD BE THOSE REPRESENTING THE OLD REGIME INVOLVED AS WELL AS THOSE REPRESENTING THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT AND RADICAL OR MARXIST GROUPS. IT IS VERY UNCLEAR.

Q. BUT THAT IS ELSEWHERE?

A. YES. INSIDE IRAN, I THINK THAT I CAN ONLY GO WITH THE FORCES THAT I'VE IDENTIFIED.

Q. THE ONLY POSITIVE TIME YOU'VE IDENTIFIED THIS GROUP WAS IN THE SEIZURE OF THE EMBASSY. YOU'VE NOT SEEN ANY EVIDENCE OF THEM INVOLVED ELSEWHERE IN THE COUNTRY?

A. YES, I'M SAYING THAT I THINK THERE IS EVIDENCE THAT THEY ARE ELSEWHERE AND OTHERS AS WELL. WE START WITH

YOUR QUESTION -- FRAGMENTARY REPORTS.

Q. RIGHT.

A. IT IS NOT SOMETHING I WOULD WANT TO GO VERY SOLID AND HOT WITH, BUT WE HAVE INDICATIONS OF THEM BEING AT WORK ELSEWHERE. THIS IS STILL ALL ON BACKGROUND.

Q. IS THERE ANY INDICATION THAT THE GROUP THAT TOOK OVER THE EMBASSY, THE LEFT-WING GUERRILLAS, WERE LINKED IN ANY WAY TO THE TUDEH PARTY, OR DO YOU FIND ANY OTHER CONNECTIONS ALONG THE POLITICAL SPECTRUM WITH THESE PEOPLE?

A. WELL, I'VE HEARD A GREAT DEAL OF SPECULATION AND SEEN SOME. I'M NOT SURE ENOUGH MYSELF OF THE IDENTITY FOR ME TO TRY TO SAY IT. THAT'S NOT A DESIRE TO ESCAPE FROM IDENTIFYING SOMEBODY; IT IS THE PURE FACT THAT I'M NOT SURE ENOUGH TO SAY YET. THAT MAY COME.

Q. AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN WAS QUOTED EARLIER THIS AFTERNOON AS USING THE WORD FEDAYEEN TO DESCRIBE THE PEOPLE WHO HAD ATTACKED THE EMBASSY. I'M WONDERING WHETHER YOU KNOW WHETHER THE USE OF THAT WORD WAS JUST A GENERAL WORD REFERRING TO ANY GUERRILLAS OR DID IT RELATE TO PALESTINIANS?

A. I DON'T KNOW. I HAVE SEEN THE PHRASE USED BOTH IN NEWS REPORTS AND IN OTHER REPORTS. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT IT INVOLVED THE GENERAL, RATHER THAN THE SPECIFIC, THAT IS, GUERRILLA FORCES WHO MAY CALL THEMSELVES FEDAYEEN BECAUSE THEY EITHER HAVE AN AFFINITY FOR OR WISH TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AS MUSLIM BROTHERS OF A CERTAIN KIND OF REVOLUTIONARY OR RADICAL. I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THAT MEANS, LITERALLY, AS IT IS SEEN ELSEWHERE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE PEOPLE WHO ATTACKED WERE NOT IRANIANS?

A. I DON'T HAVE ANY WAY TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION HONESTLY. THAT IS TO SAY, I DON'T REALLY KNOW ABOUT THE IDENTIFY MYSELF. I KNOW THE DESCRIPTION THAT HAS BEEN PUT ON THEM BY SOME OF THE PEOPLE REPORTING. I'VE SEEN NO REPORTS THAT SUGGEST THAT THEY WERE OTHER THAN IRANIAN.

Q. DO YOU KNOW HOW THE NEW GOVERNMENT REGARD THESE PEOPLE -- I MEAN THE GROUP THAT WENT INTO THE EMBASSY?

ARE THEY CONSIDERED ENEMIES OF THE NEW PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OR HOW DO THEY CONSIDER THEM?

A. I THINK YOU WILL HAVE TO ASK A REPRESENTATIVE HERE OF THEIR GOVERNMENT FOR THAT. I DON'T WANT TO TRY TO CHARACTERIZE THEM FOR THE GOVERNMENT.

Q. IN THE DESCRIPTIONS YOU ARE GETTING, DID YOU GET DESCRIPTIONS OF PARTICULAR KINDS OF HEADRESS THAT MAY SUGGEST SOME SORT OF IDENTIFICATION EITHER GENERAL OR REAL?

A. I'VE SEEN EVERYTHING FROM SKI MASKS AND MASKING TO THE SORT OF STREET FATIGUES, STREET-FIGHTER FATIGUE DRESS.

Q. BUT THE PALESTINIAN HEADRESS YOU DIDN'T HAPPEN TO NOTICE?

A. I HADN'T SEEN IT.

Q. THIS WE HAVE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Department of State

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

PAGE 05 OF 08 STATE 038937 TOSEC 010022

STATE 038937 TOSEC 010022

A. AS I WAS REMARKED AT ANOTHER MEETING, ONE OF THE INTERESTING THINGS ABOUT EVENTS RIGHT NOW IS THAT YOU HAVE MORE EYE WITNESSES ON THE STREETS, YOU AND THE MEDIA THAN WE DO, AT THIS POINT.

Q. BY THE WAY, DO YOU REMEMBER THE HAM RADIO OPERATORS AND THE POSSIBILITY OF THE HOUSE-TO-HOUSE --

A. YES. I RAISED THAT QUESTION, AND WHAT IS MY ANSWER?

MS. SCHUKER: WE DONT HAVE ANY CONFIRMATION OF THAT AT ALL.

Q. WHETHER AMERICANS ARE BEING HARRASSED IN THEIR OWN HOMES?

MS. SCHUKER: THERE IS JUST NO CONFIRMATION OF THAT.

MR. CARTER: I WILL SAY THIS AGAIN, YOU KNOW, GIVEN THE HOUR, IT IS ENTIRELY POSSIBLE ALL THAT IS TRUE AND THOSE REPORTS WILL COME STREAMING IN TO US FROM PEOPLE WHO KNOW THEM WHEN WE HAVE AN ABILITY TO COMMUNICATE.

Q. WAS THIS ADMINISTRATION BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE SOVIET UNION GOVERNMENT ABOUT IRAN TODAY?

A. I'M SIMPLY JUST ANSWERING THE ANSWER IS YES.

Q. WHAT ABOUT AFGHANISTAN? ARE WE IN TOUCH WITH THEM ON AFGHANISTAN?

A. YES.

Q. WAS THIS MAC TOON'S MEETING WITH GROMYKO TODAY THAT WAS REPORTED OUT OF MOSCOW OR WAS THIS SOMETHING SEPARATE?

A. I AM CONFIRMING WE WERE IN TOUCH WITH THEM.

Q. DID MAC MEET GROMYKO FOR THIS SPECIFIC REASON OR WAS THAT A PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED MEETING IN WHICH THIS JUST MIGHT HAVE COME UP?

A. I'M NOT GOING TO GO INTO THE REASONS FOR HIS MEETING, BUT I'M SAYING WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THEM ABOUT VARIOUS THINGS.

Q. I'M NOT ASKING THE REASONS, BUT WAS THIS A PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED MEETING, OR WAS THIS A MEETING THAT CAME UP SUDDENLY BECAUSE OF EVENTS IN --

A. I DONT KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT.

Q. CAN YOU SAY TO THE EXTENT THAT YOU KNOW WHAT THE OBJECTIVE WAS OF THE MEETING?

A. WELL, THEY ASKED THAT THE QUESTION CAME UP, DID WE DISCUSS BOTH CASES WITH THE SOVIET UNION. THE ANSWER IS YES. I'M NOT GOING TO GO INTO --

Q. HERE OR IN MOSCOW?

A. WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THEM THROUGH NDRLAL DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS.

Q. YOU WONT TELL ME WHERE?

A. THAT'S ABOUT AS FAR AS I'M GOING TO GO ON THAT.

Q. HAS A DECISION BEEN MADE ON THE HELICOPTERS AND THE MARINES?

A. I'M NOT GOING TO GO INTO ANY KIND OF DISCUSSION OF WHAT CONTINGENCE PLANNING WE HAVE.

Q. I'M NOT ASKING WHAT THE CONTINGENCY PLAN IS, BUT JUST --

A. THAT'S WHAT I'M SAYING. I'M REALLY NOT GOING TO GO INTO THAT.

Q. THERE IS A TASS REPORT THAT QUOTES YOU AS SAYING THAT A SQUADRON OF HELICOPTERS WAS MOVED TO THE IRANIAN BORDER.

A. A TASS REPORT QUOTES ME?

A. THAT A STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT A UNIT OF U.S. MARINES AND A GROUP OF HEAVY HELICOPTERS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO THE IRANIAN BORDER. ACCORDING TO THE U.S. OFFICIAL, THE STEP WAS TAKEN ALLEGEDLY TO PREPARE FOR THE CONTINGENCY TO INSURE PROTECTION OF THE U.S. CITIZENS STILL IN IRAN AND EVACUATE THEM.

A. MY COMMUNICATIONS ARE VERY BAD ON THE SUBJECT, BUT THEY ARE NOT THAT BAD. I HAVEN'T SAID ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

Q. IT'S IN TASS WITH A WASHINGTON DATELINE.

A. I HAVE NOT SAID ANYTHING LIKE THAT. I DONT KNOW OF ANY SUCH THING. I MEAN TO SAY ABOUT GOING INTO THE QUESTION OF THEIR MOVEMENTS, I CAN DENY THAT.

Q. GOING BACK TO THE COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE SOVIETS AND TO YOUR SKETCHY UNDERSTANDING OF WHO THESE PEOPLE ARE, BEING LEFTIST-MARXISTS, ARE THEY THE SORT OF LEFTIST-COMMUNISTS THAT THE RUSSIANS DONT LIKE AND HAVEN'T LIKED IN IRAN? OR ARE THEY SORT OF THE KIND THAT THEY HAVE LIKED, BECAUSE I THOUGHT THEY WEREN'T ON SUCH GOOD TERMS WITH THE TWO.

A. WELL, YOU KNOW, THERE ARE SEVERAL FACTIONS THERE, AND THERE WERE AT LEAST TWO OR MAYBE MORE TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS UNDERSTOOD TO EXIST BEFORE ANY OF THIS BUSINESS STARTED.

THE ANSWER TO YOUR QUESTION IS, I DONT KNOW AT THIS POINT. I'M NOT ABLE TO GIVE YOU A FULL AND WHAT I

WOULD CONSIDER ACCURATE DESCRIPTION OF PRECISELY WHOM THEY REPRESENTED. IN THE ABSENCE OF BEING ABLE TO DO THAT, I CANT ANSWER YOUR QUESTION. I WISH I COULD.

Q. ONE FINAL QUESTION: DO YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW WHY THESE PEOPLE INVADDED THE EMBASSY, IN THE FIRST PLACE?

A. NO, I DONT. I'M SURE THERE'S A LOT OF SPECULATION ABOUT IT, BUT I HAVEN'T HEARD ANY OFFICIAL SPECULATION ABOUT IT.

Q. ON THESE RANOOM TIDBITS OF INFORMATION, DO YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW WHO IS FIGHTING IN TABRIZ?

A. WE HAVE HAD SOME REPORTS OF FIGHTING, BUT WE ALSO HAVE REPORTS THAT IT HAS SLACKED OFF CONSIDERABLY.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Department of State

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

PAGE 06 OF 08 STATE #38937 TOSEC #18022

STATE #38937 TOSEC #18022

AM NOT SURE WHO IS FIGHTING THERE. I THINK IT IS ONE OF THOSE PLACES WHERE THE ELEMENTS ARE SO MIXED AS TO CONFUSE THE OBSERVER AS TO WHO IS INVOLVED, AND BY THAT I MEAN THAT IT MAY GO BEYOND JUST THE TWO DIVISIONS THAT WE HAVE SEEN IN THE CONFLICT AROUND THE EMBASSY IN TEHRAN. BUT I THINK THAT IS REALLY THE KIND OF QUESTION THAT YOU MIGHT WANT TO PUT TO THE GOVERNMENT'S REPRESENTATIVES HERE OR HAVE YOUR REPORTERS PUT OVER THERE. I'M NOT GOING TO TRY TO SPEAK -- AND I'M SURELY NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO GIVE YOU SITUATION REPORTS ON A LOT OF THESE PLACES.

LET ME GIVE YOU SOME THINGS I CAN TELL YOU ABOUT AFGHANISTAN, AND AFTER THAT, I'M GOING TO TURN OFF THE LIGHT UNLESS THERE IS SOME OCCASION TO CALL YOU UP IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT AND WE'LL GO BACK AT THIS THING TOMORROW.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE ARRANGEMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE TO DATE CONCERNING THE RETURN OF AMBASSADOR DUBS' BODY AND THE FUNERAL HERE IN WASHINGTON. THE PLANE WILL LEAVE ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE AT TEN TOMORROW MORNING, AND AFTER A REFUELING STOP IN ATHENS, WILL ARRIVE IN KABUL AT 2:45 P.M., FEBRUARY 16TH, FRIDAY.

THE AMBASSADOR'S WIDOW -- MARY ANN DUBS -- AND SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY WILL BE ON THE PLANE. THE OFFICIAL PARTY FROM THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WILL INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PRESIDENT: CHARLES O'KEEFE; DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE HARRY G. BARNES, JR.; AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

FOR NEAR EASTERN AND SOUTH ASIAN AFFAIRS JACK MIKLOS; DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR MANAGEMENT STEVE PIECZENIK.

THE PLANE WILL OVERNIGHT IN KABUL. IT WILL DEPART AT 8:00 A.M., FEBRUARY 17TH, SATURDAY, WITH THE AMBASSADOR'S REMAINS AND FLY TO TORRESON BASE OUTSIDE MADRID.

THE NEXT MORNING IT WILL FLY TO ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE, ARRIVING AT 12:20, FEBRUARY 18TH, SUNDAY. FULL HONORS WILL BE ACCORDED AT ANDREWS.

THE BODY WILL LIE IN REPOSE AT THE AMPHITHEATER CHAPEL AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY ON MONDAY. FUNERAL SERVICES WILL BE HELD AT 10:00 A.M., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH, IN THE MEMORIAL CHAPEL OF ARLINGTON CEMETERY, FOLLOWED BY BURIAL THERE.

THE FUNERAL, THE ANDREWS ARRIVAL, AND THE KABUL DEPARTURE ARE OPEN TO PRESS COVERAGE. ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE THROUGH THE PRESS OFFICE HERE.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE INCIDENT ITSELF -- WHAT HAPPENED, WHO IS INVOLVED?

A. WE HAVE A VERY FULL REPORT, WHICH IS BEING ANALYZED NOW; AND THERE WILL BE QUESTIONS GOING BACK AND FORTH ON THE BASIS OF THE REPORT FROM OUR EMBASSY IN KABUL.

WE DO NOT -- OR DID NOT HAVE, WHEN I LAST LOOKED -- THE FIRST MEDICAL REPORT, THOUGH IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE COMING.

I DO NOT NOW HAVE ANYTHING NEW TO ADD TO WHAT I SAID BEFORE. IT IS POSSIBLE, INDEED, IT IS LIKELY THAT I WILL HAVE MORE TO SAY TOMORROW.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY CLEARER PICTURE OF WHOSE BULLETS IT WAS THAT KILLED HIM?

A. THAT IS AMONG THE QUESTIONS THAT IS BEING ANALYZED. THE REPORT LEAVES OPEN THE QUESTION IN A LOT OF WAYS. WHILE DESCRIPTIVE, IT IS NOT DETERMINATIVE, YOU KNOW, AND THE MEDICAL REPORT MIGHT HELP; OTHER THINGS MIGHT HELP.

Q. DOES THE REPORT LEAVE ANY DOUBT --

Q. THERE SEEMS TO BE SOME INCONSISTENCY, AS I UNDERSTAND IT, BETWEEN THE REPORT THAT THE MEDICAL OFFICER PRO-
NOUNCED HIM DEAD AND THE AFRICA RADIO -- THE KABUL RADIO -- SAYS THAT HE WAS TAKEN TO A HOSPITAL STILL

ALIVE. CAN YOU TELL US AT WHAT POINT --

A. HE WAS DEAD.

Q. HE WAS PRONOUNCED DEAD AT THE HOTEL, BY THE WAY?

A. HE WAS DEAD AT THE HOTEL.

Q. CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT A SOVIET ADVISER WAS PRESENT DURING THE RUSH ON THE HOTEL ROOM?

A. THAT IS THE INDICATION ON OUR REPORTING -- WERE PRESENT.

Q. PRESENT. DID NOT DIRECT.

A. I AM NOT ABLE TO GO INTO ANY DESCRIPTION OF THEIR PARTICIPATION. I AM SAYING THAT IT IS OUR INDICATION THAT THEY WERE PRESENT.

Q. HOW MANY?

A. I AM NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO GO BEYOND THAT AT THIS TIME.

WELL, HE'S ASKED ME IF THEY WERE. I'M USING THAT GENERICALLY. I'M NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO GO BEYOND THIS THING. IT'S JUST TO CONFIRM A PRESENCE THERE. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT I WILL HAVE MORE ON THIS.

Q. WAS THE MATTER RAISED WITH THE SOVIET UNION?

A. WHAT MATTER? WE DID DISCUSS THE GENERAL QUESTION DURING THE PROBLEM ITSELF BEFORE ITS TRAGIC CONCLUSION. BUT INsofar AS ANYTHING NEW BEING RAISED WITH THEM AT THIS POINT THE ANSWER IS NO.

Q. IN YOUR PROTEST TO THE GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN --

A. YOU ASKED ME -- YOU ASKED ME AND I ANSWERED A QUESTION.

Q. YOU TALKED TO THE SOVIET UNION ABOUT THE SITUATION IN KABUL DURING THE TIME THAT DUBS WAS BEING HELD IN THE HOTEL ROOM?

A. WE HAVE HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH THEM ON THAT SUBJECT. WE HAVE NOT GONE BACK TO THEM ON THE SUBJECT.

Q. HAVE YOU FILED A PROTEST OF ANY KIND WITH THE SOVIET UNION?

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Department of State

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

PAGE 07 OF 08 STATE #38937 TOSEC #18822

STATE #38937 TOSEC #18822

A. WE HAVE NOT COME BACK TO THEM ON THE SUBJECT.

Q. WAIT A MINUTE NOW. LET'S CLARIFY THIS. THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS YOU WERE IN TOUCH WITH THE SOVIETS WHILE DUBS WAS BEING HELD, IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE SAYING.

A. YES.

Q. CAN YOU SAY THE UNITED STATES CONVEYED TO THE SOVIET UNION ITS VERY STRONG DESIRE THAT THE HOTEL ROOM NOT BE RUSHED?

A. I'M NOT GOING TO GO ANY FURTHER THAN THAT.

Q. CAN YOU TELL US HOW LONG HE WAS HELD IN THE HOTEL ROOM?

A. I DON'T HAVE THAT. IT'S BEEN POSTED FOR ME. I DON'T HAVE IT IN FRONT OF ME.

Q. MAY I ASK: WHEN YOU PROTESTED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN, WAS THERE ANY REFERENCE TO THE PRESENCE OF SOVIET ADVISERS?

A. I DON'T THINK I'M GOING TO GO INTO THE NATURE OF WHAT WE SAID TO THEM.

Q. COULDN'T YOU SAY WHETHER WE, IN OUR CONVERSATIONS WITH THE SOVIETS USE THEIR INFLUENCE TO GET HIM FREE?

A. NO. I'M REALLY NOT GOING TO GO BEYOND THE FACT THAT WE DID HAVE THE CONVERSATION WITH THEM.

Q. IT WOULD BE KIND OF INCREDIBLE IF YOU DIDN'T TRY TO DO ALL YOU COULD TO GET HIM FREE.

A. I'M NOT GOING TO ARGUE OR AGREE WITH EITHER ONE. I AM JUST NOT GOING TO CHARACTERIZE OUR CONVERSATION AT THIS TIME.

Q. HODDING, DOES YOUR REPORT SUBSTANTIATE THE REPORT FROM KABUL THAT THE KIDNAPPERS WERE KILLED DURING THE FIREFIGHTING INCIDENT?

MR. SHERMAN: THE EVIDENCE OF OUR PEOPLE ON THE SCENE IS THAT AT LEAST ONE OF THEM WAS DEAD. ONE WAS UNCONSCIOUS AND PROBABLY DEAD. THE OTHER HAD BEEN WORKED OVER AND WAS PROBABLY ALIVE.

Q. YOU NAMED THREE. THE KABUL RADIO SAID FOUR.

MR. SHERMAN: THAT IS ONE OF THE THINGS WE ARE LOOKING INTO.

MR. CARTER: THERE ARE A NUMBER OF ASPECTS OF THIS. LET ME JUST SAY, THAT REQUIRE SOME MORE --.

Q. I'M SORRY, I DON'T KNOW, MAYBE YOU COVERED THIS, DID WE EVER DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT THERE WAS AN AMERICAN SECURITY OFFICER -- TRAVELLING WITH THE AMBASSADOR?

A. IS THE ANSWER TO THAT ONE TAKEN? I WOULD APPRECIATE IT.

Q. ONE IS SUPPOSED TO BE TRAVELLING WITH HIM. I DON'T KNOW.

A. HAVE WE GOT AN ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION, SINCE I

HAVE BEEN OUT OF THIS BUILDING? THAT'S WHY I DID NOT KNOW IF THE THING HAD BEEN POSTED.

Q. DID THE AMBASSADOR HAVE ANY SECURITY OFFICER WITH HIM AS HE MADE HIS WAY TO THE EMBASSY?

MR. SHERMAN: WE ARE STILL LOOKING INTO IT.

Q. BY THE WAY, IS THERE A CLASSIFICATION OF EMBASSIES WHERE THERE SHOULD BE A SECURITY OFFICER WITH HIM? I MEAN, ARE THERE CERTAIN COUNTRIES WHERE THAT IS SORT OF A CONDITION?

MR. SHERMAN: YES.

Q. IS AFGHANISTAN ONE OF THOSE COUNTRIES?

MR. SHERMAN: I DON'T KNOW.

Q. HODDING, A LOT OF AMERICANS ARE GOING TO READ ABOUT THIS AND SEE THIS ON THE NEWS TONIGHT. AND THEY ARE GOING TO BE ANGRY AND THEY ARE GOING TO WANT THE GOVERNMENT TO DO SOMETHING. ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT XENOPHOBIA? ARE YOU TRYING TO THINK OF WHAT YOU MIGHT DO TO MAKE THE AMERICANS LESS ANGRY -- THEY MAY BE ANGRY AT THE ADMINISTRATION. THEY MAY THINK YOU ARE TAKING TOO LONG TO RESPOND.

MR. CARTER: WE ARE ANGRY AND WE ARE UPSET AND WE ARE CONCERNED AND WE ARE LOOKING INTO THIS WITH A VIEW BOTH TO HAVING A COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT HAPPENED THERE AND WITH A VIEW TOWARD ATTEMPTING TO DO SOMETHING WHICH WOULD BE EFFECTIVE BOTH FOR THE PROTECTION OF OTHER AMERICANS AND ALSO TO DEAL WITH THE SITUATION AS IT AROSE THERE.

BUT WHILE I APPRECIATE THE POSSIBILITY, AND WE CERTAINLY DO OF ANGER AND UPSET, WHICH WOULD BE A NATURAL REACTION UPON THE DEATH OF AN AMERICAN OFFICIAL ABROAD, IT IS QUITE FRANKLY NOT SOMETHING WITH WHICH WE CAN DEAL BY WAVING A WAND. WE HAVE TO TRY TO FIND OUT PRECISELY WHAT HAPPENED.

Q. ON THAT POINT, KABUL RADIO MADE REFERENCE EARLIER TO A MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN TO SECRETARY VANCE AND TO THE PRESIDENT. CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT THERE WAS ONE?

MR. SHERMAN: WE WILL HAVE TO CHECK ON THAT. I DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE TO CHECK IT.

Q. HODDING, HAS THERE BEEN ANY DISCUSSION OF THE POSSIBILITY THAT OTHER OFFICIALS FRIENDLY TO THE UNITED STATES MIGHT BE VICTIMS, AS AMBASSADOR DUBS WAS, AND MAYBE EVEN GOING AS FAR AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WORLD BANK THERE, ANY DISCUSSION OF THAT REPEATED TO HIM?

MR. CARTER: I DON'T KNOW. I SEE THE POINT OF THE QUESTION. I DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER. I DO WANT TO REPEAT SOMETHING I SAID THIS MORNING BEFORE WE GO WAY DOWN THAT ROAD YOU HAVE GOT ME ON JUST NOW, AND THAT IS THE PRECIPITATING CAUSE OF AMBASSADOR DUBS DEATH WAS HIS ABDUCTION BY THE PEOPLE WHO TOOK HIM OUT OF THE CAR.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY CLEAR PICTURE OF THEIR MOTIVES OR WHAT THEIR COMPLAINT WAS THAN YOU HAD EARLIER?

A. I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING MORE THAN I CAN OFFER ON THAT RIGHT NOW. WE ARE STUDYING THE REPORT.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Department of State

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

PAGE 03 OF 03 STATE 038937 TOSEC 010022

Q. HAVE YOU STEPPED UP SECURITY MEASURES IN OTHER EMBASSIES SINCE THESE SETS OF EVENTS?

A. I HAVE ALREADY EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN. I AM NOT GOING TO GO INTO WHAT SECURITY STEPS WE MAY HAVE TAKEN.

Q. IN KABUL, ARE YOU STEPPING UP SECURITY?

A. WE ARE TAKING STEPS WHICH WE FEEL ARE NECESSARY. I ANNOUNCED THEM AT THE TIME OF MY READ-OUT EARLIER TODAY.

Q. YOU SAID BEFORE YOU WERE UPSET THAT THE HOTEL WAS RUSHED AND PRESUMABLY WAS RUSHED WHILE NEGOTIATIONS WERE BEGINNING OR SOMETHING. AS A GENERAL RULE, ISN'T THE STATE DEPARTMENT OPPOSED TO NEGOTIATING WITH KIDNAPPERS? HAS THAT RULE CHANGED? I LOOKED IN THE CHRONOLOGY AND HUGE RANSOMS USED TO BE PAID, AND THEN AFTER THE UNITED STATES MADE IT A RULE THAT THERE WOULDN'T BE ANY MORE AND THEY SEEMED TO HAVE STOPPED.

A. LET ME SAY SORT OF WHAT THE OFFICIAL POSITION IS. WE LOOKED TO THE HOST GOVERNMENT WHEN AMERICANS ARE ABDUCTED OVERSEAS TO EXERCISE ITS RESPONSIBILITY UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW TO PROTECT ALL PERSONS WITHIN ITS TERRITORIES, INCLUDING THE SAFE RELEASE OF HOSTAGES. THAT IS POINT FOUR.

POINT FIVE. WE MAINTAIN CLOSE AND CONTINUOUS CONTACT, ETC., ETC., BUT WE OFFER NO ADVICE ON HOW TO RESPOND TO SPECIFIC TERRORIST DEMANDS.

POINT SIX. WE UNDERSTAND THE EXTREME DIFFICULTY OF THE DECISIONS GOVERNMENTS ARE OFTEN CALLED UPON TO MAKE; FOR EXAMPLE, HOW IS A PRACTICAL OPERATIONAL MATTER TO RECONCILE THE OBJECTIVES OF SAVING THE LIVES OF THE HOSTAGES AND MAKING SURE THAT THE TERRORISTS CAN GAIN NO BENEFIT FROM THEIR LAWLESS ACTIONS.

SO I THINK POINT FOUR IS APPLICABLE. WE LOOK TO THE HOST GOVERNMENT. I MEAN ALL THE POINTS ARE APPLICABLE.

Q. THAT IS THE WAY IT HAS BEEN FOR A LONG TIME. WE OURSELVES DON'T PAY RANSOM, AS I UNDERSTAND IT.

A. WE SAY WE MAKE NO CONCESSIONS TO TERRORISTS' BLACKMAIL.

CHRISTOPHER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE